

11/26 - 12/2/2003

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# MULUS ROMAN

The Official Newspaper Of The City Of Romulus

Nov. 26 - Dec. 3, 2003

75¢

## Tribe sponsors casino job fair

Ashley Lawrence  
Staff Writer

The Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of Chippewa Indians sponsored a jobs fair at the Best Western in Romulus Monday to allow Romulus residents a first look at future jobs that will be available if a proposed casino comes to the city.

"We want to tell the people of Romulus about what they can expect from the casino," said Jason Pasko, controller of Greektown Casino in Detroit. "Residents have questions, as any good voter should and we are here to answer them and at the same time allow them to apply for a job at the casino."

Dave and Carol Fletcher, a retired couple and 34-year residents of Romulus, came out to the jobs fair to look into part-time jobs.

"I don't just want to sit and

watch my grass grow," said Dave Fletcher. "I think it would be great to get a job with this casino. It doesn't really matter what I would be doing, just something."

The Fletchers said they are for the casino for a number of reasons, but the most important being what it would do for the City of Romulus.

"I think it will give this city some class," said Fletcher. "It will put smiles on people's faces here. They would be happy with jobs that pay \$10 to \$12 an hour, just so people could have a job to go to."

Prospective employees applied for a variety of open positions with the proposed casino. Everything from maintenance, banker, driver, hotel staff, management and baker is available, according to Jill Hanna, general ledger accountant at Greektown Casino.

"All of these jobs are open right now," said Pasko. "The manage-

ment jobs, everything and people can't forget about the outside services that the casino requires to operate."

Pam Kulczyk, a Romulus resident applied for a job as a pastry chef.

"I want to get a job closer to home," she said.

Kulczyk is currently employed at a large bakery in downtown Northville, but she said she would like to work in this area.

"I think this casino will bring in a lot of people," she said. "I can see people coming here during their lay-off time at the airport."

Brandon Reed, a 21-year old student studying to be an electronic computer technician, applied for a job as a maintenance technician with the casino.

"It is better pay and I will be able to improve my skills," said Reed. "It will also bring a lot of jobs to the city, which it really needs right now."



Dave and Carol Fletcher attended the casino jobs fair and completed applications, Monday at the Best Western Hotel in Romulus. The retired couple is looking for work to fill their time and thought it would be fun to work for the proposed casino.

## Racetrack officials bank on positive vote outcome

Scott Spielman  
Editor

When residents of the City of Romulus head to the polls next Tuesday, they'll be voting on more than just a proposed racetrack and casino.

Officials from Magna Entertainment, who plan a 200-acre development that includes a racetrack and clubhouse and, ultimately, a regional retail center and movie theater, said residents will have a chance to decide the makeup of the community.

Lorne Kumer, vice president of real estate for Magna, said that his firm is already committed to the community. The firm has already purchased the site for the proposed track – at a cost of \$28 million – and put more than \$1 million into design and engineering for the site.

Still, he said his company is faced with a serious obstacles to overcome as they try to promote their development.

"People's notions of what a race track is are not good," he said. "They're worn out. They might have some history, but they're not inviting to come to."

He said the Magna proposal was different, however. The first phase of it will represent a \$125 million investment in the community. The clubhouse will feature timeless architecture, a hi-tech stage that can feature concerts and other performances, a

1,000-seat restaurant and more. A 7-acre parcel will be set aside for families, with playscapes and picnic tables, that will be accessible without walking through the gambling portion of the site.

"We're trying to attract people there for other reasons," Kumer said. "You could spend an entire evening there without even betting on a horse race."

The first phase of development also includes a 33,000 square foot research and development facility that can be expanded to 66,000 square feet. It will house the headquarters of Magna International, a major supplier of automotive parts that employs 73,000 people in 198 plants around the world. Started in the 1950s as a tool and die company, it now generates \$12 billion in sales every year.

"Magna isn't just the developer, it's the user," Kumer said. "When we build it, we operate it."

The company owns 15 racetracks around the country, and wants to bring the industry back to its glory days, said Kumer. He said the facility would sponsor major new racing events that would bring thousand of people to the community and recognition to the community, too.

"It'll be a place where the finest horses want to race," he said. "It'll bring people to the community."

The second phase of the pro-



### Songs of the season

The Romulus Middle School Performing Arts Choir made their first appearance at the Romulus High School auditorium before a large audience who gave their performance a standing ovation. Members include, first row left, Jessica Cromk, Cicely Shaw, Chelsea Tyree and Tamica Mosley. In the second row, from left, are Shelby Green, Ashley Meinicke, Kelly Mays and Melissa DuFore.

## Councilman pushes for new animal shelter

Ashley Lawrence  
Staff Writer

In this day of social awareness regarding the humane treatment of animals, it is unbelievable to Romulus City Councilman William Wadsworth that any animal should be housed in the existing animal shelter in Romulus.

"We are trying to get the animals out of this dungeon," he said. "This building is ridiculous. We need to do something to help these animals."

The original building, which was built sometime before World War II and renovated in the 1950s, is not what he said an animal shelter should look like for the animals or the people who work there.

The small building sits on the corner of Wayne and Goddard in full view of all residents. Many residents are not aware that this building is not even equipped with toilet facilities for employees.

"We have to go across the

street to Burger King whenever we have to use the bathroom," said Animal Control Officer Kim Matthews. "It is not the most convenient thing in the world, but we have to make do with what we have."

The shelter, which processes more than 2,000 animals each year, isn't even equipped to deal with that number. Each year more than 900 animals are put to death because the shelter does not have

See Shelter, page 3

See Racetrack, page 3

## OBITUARIES

**JOHNSON, Ellen**

Ellen E. Johnson, 81, of Wayne, died Nov. 18.

Among her survivors are her children, Chris (Barb) Johnson, Judy (George Bailey, Jeff (Kathy) Johnson and Phil (Kim) Johnson; sisters, Mary Dowd, Katherine Angove and Patricia Fisher; grandchildren, Becca Johnson, Matt Johnson, Jennifer Bailey, Charles Bailey, Anne Bailey, Robert Bailey, David Johnson, Jeff Johnson, Adam Knoll, Rose Knoll, Phil Johnson, Rick Thomas, Leann Thomas, Don Johnson and Joe Johnson, and great grandchildren, Halle Lankton and Zack Langton.

Funeral services were at St. Mary Catholic Church in Wayne with Father Jack Baker officiating.

Interment was at Holy Sepulcher Cemetery in Southfield.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Uht Funeral Home.

**ZIGILA, Albin**

Albin Zigila, 86, of Rose City, died Oct. 30.

Among his survivors is his wife, Doris Zigila; son, Albin E. Zigila; daughter, Sharon Briggs; a brother, Edward Zigila; six grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren, and a great-great-grandchild.

Interment was at Cadillac Memorial Gardens West in Westland.

Arrangements were entrusted to the Uht Funeral Home.

**KOSZEDNAR, Helen W.**

Helen W. Koszednar, 82, of Romulus, died Nov. 19.

Among her survivors are her children, Jerry, Richard (Sharon) an Joyce (Dale) Lennox; grandchildren Aaron, Trisha and Matt Lennox, Jeffrey (Julie) Sona and Jennifer (Kent) Hall, and great-grandchildren Kyle Hall and Nicholas Sona.

Funeral services were at Michigan Memorial Funeral Home in Huron Township.

Interment was at Michigan Memorial Park

**TOYE, Bernard**

Bernard C. Toye, 74, of Belleville, died Nov. 22 at home.

Among his survivors is his wife, D. Dadine (Richardson) Toye; children, Gregory Bean of Florida, Michael Bean of Westland, Linda (Thomas) Mroz, John (Valerie) Toye, Jeffrey Toye, Dionne Toye and Jay Toye, all of Belleville; siblings, Maria McGlinchey and Ned Toye, both of Ireland, and five grandchildren.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with the Rev. Galvin Brown officiating.

Interment was at Tyler Street Cemetery in Belleville.

**SZWAJKOWSKI, Leah Julie**

Leah Julie Szwajkowski, 88, of Belleville, died Nov. 22.

Among her survivors is her niece, Calmathis Joan Romak of Southgate; 45 step-grandchildren, and 60 step-great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Father Thomas H. Cusick officiating.

Interment was at Washtenong Memorial Park in Ann Arbor.

**BONDIE, Leona J.**

Leona J. Bondie, 71, of Romulus, died Nov. 17.

Among her survivors is her son, Donald J. (Lynne) Bondie of New Boston; a brother, Chester Frazier of Addison; a sister, Ethel (Tom) Towry of Hillsdale; grandchildren, Donald (Linda) Bondie Jr. and Deanne Trese, and great-grandchildren, Julie, Felicia, Eric, Tyler, Nicholas and Kayla.

Funeral services were at the Crane Funeral Home with the Rev. Robert J. White of Grace Baptist Church in Belleville, officiating.

Interment was in Romulus Cemetery.

**GARLAND, Juanita L.**

Juanita L. Garland, 73, of Huron Township, died Nov. 17.

Among her survivors are her sons, Jerold K. (Donetta) Garland and Ronald A. (Debra) Garland, all of Romulus; daughter, Peggy S. (Terry) Hickman of Trenton; brothers, James E. (Katherine)

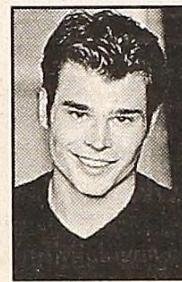
Wyatt of Murray, KY, Harold K. (Lynn) Wyatt of Almo, KY, Namon (Linda) Wyatt of Nashville, TN; sister, Hilda (Joepat) Winchester of Murray, KY; 12 grandchildren, and 19 great-grandchildren.

Funeral services were at Calvary Baptist Church with Pastor Marvin Hawbaker officiating.

Interment was at Romulus Cemetery. Arrangements were entrusted to the Crane Funeral Home.

# GRAND OPENING

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## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 9, 2003 at 7:00 p.m., in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan 48111.

The Public Hearing relates to Parcel Number V125-83-058-99-0013-701, also known as Westlake Apartments. This property is located on the east side of Belleville Road, between Tyler Road and North I-94 Service Drive.

The subject site is located within the Charter Township of Van Buren RM (Multiple Family Residential) Zoning District. The applicant, Occidental Development, L.L.C., is requesting a 3' variance to the height of buildings 7-10.

The applicant is requesting the following:

### ARTICLE XVII SECTION 17.02 SCHEDULE OF REGULATIONS, BUILDING HEIGHT, RM, Multiple Family Residential

- 30 feet allowed
- 33 feet proposed
- 3 foot variance is required

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the date of the above reference Public Hearing.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 9, 2003 at 7:00 p.m., in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan 48111.

The Public Hearing relates to Parcel Number V125-83-085-01-0025-000; also known as 44305 Harmony Lane. This property is located on the south side of Harmony Lane.

The subject site is located within the Charter Township of Van Buren R-1B (Single Family Residential) Zoning District. The applicant is requesting a 10' variance from the required 30' front yard setback to construct an attached garage to front of home.

The applicant is requesting the following:

### ARTICLE XVII SECTION 17.02 SCHEDULE OF REGULATIONS, FRONT YARD SETBACK, R1-B Single Family Residential

- 30-foot front yard setback required
- 20-foot front yard setback proposed
- 10-foot variance requested

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the date of the above reference Public Hearing.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

# Racetrack reality different in Fruit Port

Ashley Lawrence  
Staff Writer

Voters will determine the future of the City of Romulus next week when they go to the polls to decide on whether a casino and a racetrack should come to their community.

The \$100 million racetrack development is proposed by Magna Entertainment Corp. and the developers have projected that \$1 million in breakage fees would come to the city each year from the track.

According to Connie Smith, Fruit Port Charter Township supervisor, however, estimated breakage revenue is just that, an estimate.

Fruit Port is home to Great

Lakes Downs, the other racetrack Magna owns and operates in Michigan. Magna took over Great Lakes Downs in January of 1999 and at that time, according to Smith, the estimate for breakage money was about \$250,000.

Last year, Fruit Port brought in only \$74,895 in breakage money from the racetrack. The year before, \$75,059, much less than projected revenues the township and Muskegon County expected to receive.

"We don't really make any money from the racetrack," she said. "The picture that was brought before the township certainly has not become a reality."

Since Great Lakes Downs began operations under Magna,

large-scale developers have come into the community to build, but Smith said she does not credit the racetrack for that.

"We have had a huge influx of commercial developers in our community in the past few years," she said. "But I think that had to do with the building of Lakes Mall in 2001, it was not facilitated by the racetrack at all."

Smith said she doesn't know why the racetrack has failed in Fruit Port, "Maybe it is our location, maybe it is that our 12,500 residents don't go to the racetrack, maybe it will fair better in Romulus. I don't know."

Smith said the situation could be quite different in other communities.



Romulus residents and students came to show support and enjoy a baby shower at Romulus High School to benefit Helping Hands. From left front, Mary Decker and Florence Klein of Helping Hands and students Averianna Ritchey and Henry Windham; back row, Phyllis Bolas, Betty Santo, Rose Boatwright, Tonya Klein, Cecily Ricer, Shaniya Dye, Michelle Watt and Niema White.

## Students host Helping Hands baby shower

Ashley Lawrence  
Staff Writer

Students at Romulus Middle School and Romulus High School helped make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate last month during the National Make A Difference Day.

On this single day, nationally, school children create crafts and deliver them to homes for the elderly, proms are organized for senior citizens, community members knit hats and booties for new babies and teenagers collect hats for children with hair loss due to cancer treatments.

Students in Romulus decided for the third straight year to host a baby shower with all donations going to Helping Hands, a local organization that services Romulus residents in need.

"The students wanted to do something that would truly help people in their own community," said Phyllis Wilkerson, the life management teacher at Romulus High School. "Services Helping Hands is something that stays in our community

and makes the students feel good about what they are doing."

The baby shower took place at the Romulus High School. All who attended the shower were asked to bring one unwrapped baby item, which was to be donated to Helping Hands.

"We were so happy with the turn out this year," said Wilkerson. "More than 70 people came to make donations and enjoy the baby shower."

The shower was arranged by students in grades 10 through 12.

"The nutrition class got involved and decided to make cakes for the shower," she said. "What is a baby shower without a cake?"

Students from Romulus Middle School life management classes, taught by Betty Santos, also assisted in the planning of the shower by creating party favors.

Now, the students from the parenting class are in the process of putting together gift packages that will be brought to Helping Hands in the next few weeks, just in time for Christmas.

## Racetrack

FROM PAGE 1

ject is just as important to the developers, he said. After the first phase is complete and in operation, he said the company would periodically test the market to determine the best time to construct the retail and commercial component of the plan.

That includes about 700,000 square feet of space in a mixed use development, according to Kumer. Of that, 270,000 square feet would be set aside for retail

uses, another 54,000 square feet for restaurants, 100,000 square feet would be office space and 100,000 square feet would be a multi-screen movie theater. There would be living space in the plan.

When both phases of the project are complete, the company will have invested \$325 million in Romulus and will contribute about \$70 million to the city in taxes, along with about \$1 million from racetrack revenue.

"We think the racetrack will be a catalyst for the city," Kumer said.

## Public comment sought by city

The City of Romulus is interested in public comments regarding a request for Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) funding for a Brownfield Grant. The city will be submitting an application for a \$200,000 cleanup grant for

property located at the southwest corner of Wick and Shook Roads.

The property, once restored, will be utilized as greenspace for recreational purposes.

For more information, contact Kathleen Trent at (734) 955-4503.



Romulus Animal Control Officer Annie Hall said she is hopeful that something will be done to better the Romulus Animal Shelter. Hall is holding one of the 2,000 animals a year housed at the shelter.

## Shelter

FROM PAGE 1

the room to keep them and is not able to find homes for them.

"We do everything we can to get these animals into good homes," she said. "But sometimes that is just not a possibility. That is very sad."

Animals at the shelter can be adopted for a \$5 adoption fee and a \$25 deposit that is returned with proof that the animal has been spayed or neutered.

The shelter has only 18 small dog cages and that is often too few, especially in the summer, which Matthews said is the busiest time of year.

The animals sleep on cold cement floors, unless rugs or blankets are donated from the community. All of the food for animals is donated. Just about everything in the shelter has been donated, including the dog-themed wallpaper.

"We are trying to get the word out that this city needs a new home for its animals," said Wadsworth. "Animals shouldn't have to live like this."

The two animal control officers, Matthews and Annie Hall, said they do their best for the homeless animals.

"We do everything we can, but we can't do everything," said Matthews. "We can't even afford to have a vet come in when an animal is hurt or sick."

A local veterinarian has, on occasion, offered to come and examine animals free of charge and this is the type of generosity the shelter counts on to keep the animals healthy enough to be adopted. Now, with the help of Wadsworth, they are asking the community to help them give the animals a better home.

Starting last year in January, Wadsworth has been leading the way to get funds together to build a new animal shelter.

"I am doing this because I am an animal lover," he said. "This is a cause I feel strongly about and there are many more, but this is right now."

Wadsworth said that the estimate for a new shelter would be about \$250,000 to \$300,000. Prior to Sept. 11, funds had already been set aside to pay for a new animal shelter, but with the addition of Homeland Security to every municipal budget, those

funds disappeared fast.

"Mayor Alan Lambert is still trying to find grants to help build this shelter," said Wadsworth.

However, Wadsworth took the matter into his own hands. On Jan. 8, 2003, Wadsworth introduced a resolution before the Romulus City Council which would allow him to create the "Friends for the new Romulus Animal Shelter" account at city hall. This account is set up so that anyone can make a tax-free contribution to the fund.

"A lot of people want to help raise money for a new shelter," said Wadsworth. "Seventy percent of the money raised has come from local residents. The more help the better."

To make a tax-free donation to the Friends of the new Romulus Animal Shelter, send contributions to Romulus City Hall - Treasurer's Office, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174.

	YES! I WANT TO DO MY PART!
PLEASE ACCEPT MY DONATION OF \$ _____	TO BE USED FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A
<b>NEW ROMULUS ANIMAL SHELTER</b>	
NAME _____	
Address _____	
City/ZIP _____	
Telephone _____	
Send checks	
(made payable to "Friends of the New Romulus Animal Shelter") to:	
Romulus City Hall, 11111 Wayne Rd. Romulus MI 48174	

# Additional budget cuts threatened by governor

Scott Spielman  
Editor

Officials in the City of Wayne are bracing for another round of potential budget cuts caused by another possible cut in state shared revenue.

A fax alert the city recently received from the Michigan Municipal League said the governor may issue an executive order slashing state shared revenue by as much as 20 percent, according to City Manager John Zech.

That would mean the city budget would take a \$350,000 reduction, halfway through the budget year. The city only has a \$500,000 fund balance.

"It's an astounding amount of cuts," said Councilman Tom Kelly. "It's mind boggling. It leads me to believe that they just pulled the number out of the air."

Zech said if that prediction came to pass, it would be devastating for the city. He said that plenty of other municipalities are in the same position. He attended a funding rally recently in Hazel Park, which was attended by hundreds of municipal workers, police officers and firefighters, as well as citizens

and elected officials, all of whom had the same message for the state government.

"The message from all the speakers was this: the Governor and the state legislature cannot cut revenue sharing any further without causing very serious reductions of municipal services throughout Michigan, such as police, fire, rescue, road maintenance and repair, snow and ice removal, water and sewer, senior services and recreation and park services," Zech said.

Wayne Mayor Al Haidous said he was frustrated by the situation. He and other officials are trying to build up the City of Wayne, and he said it's difficult when the funds are continually in short supply. He said he didn't think, though, that the cuts would be the 29 percent threatened last week.

"It's a bargaining point," he said. "They say 28 percent and then they'll cut 14 percent, and you'll be happy because it's not 28 percent."

Haidous' prediction from last week may be true. Zech said he received word more recently that the state may only reduce state shared revenue by 12 percent. That would be a reduction of about \$85,000 for the city.

"I can work with that," he said, "but it's

not going to be pretty."

Reduction in state shared revenue is one of the things the state legislature is forced to look at as they try to cope with a \$900 million budget deficit, he said. A freeze on a proposed lower income tax is also part of the plan, but that won't have a significant

enough impact to stop the bleeding, he said. He said he knows some type of revenue sharing cut is on the way, though.

"There's no way we're going to escape (the \$900 million deficit), that I can see, without some kind of cut," he said. "We just feel like we've had too much, already."

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 9, 2003 at 7:00 p.m., in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan 48111.

The Public Hearing relates to Parcel Number V125-83-111-99-0011-001 and 1.51 acres of V125-83-111-99-0011-002. This property is located on the north side of Hull Road, between Sumpter and Elwell Roads.

The subject site is located within the Charter Township of Van Buren R1-B (Single Family Residential) Zoning District. The applicant, Oak Creek Woods LLC, is requesting an appeal from the Planning Commission's decision dated May 14, 2003 granting Conditional Preliminary Site Plan Approval subject to items and recommendations listed in McKenna's letter dated May 8, 2003 and Wade Trim's letter dated May 9, 2003.

The applicant is requesting the following:

### ARTICLE IV, Section 4.51 APPEALS FROM A DECISION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the date of the above reference Public Hearing.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

Publish: November 26, 2003

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF TRUSTEES PUBLIC HEARING

Notice is hereby given that the Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Trustees will hold a public hearing in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan, 48111 on Tuesday December 2, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. to consider Special Use approval for a Tim Horton's drive thru on the following described property:

This Public Hearing relates to approximately .79 acres, parcel numbers V125-83-064-99-0005-715.

A map indicating the location of the subject site is included below.



This property is located on Belleville Road on the Wal-Mart Outlet north of Applebee's Restaurant.

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the hearing date.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services, at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

Published: November 26, 2003

## DECEMBER BOARD OF REVIEW CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN

### NOTICE TO THE TAXPAYERS AND PROPERTY OWNERS OF VAN BUREN CHARTER TOWNSHIP

The BOARD OF REVIEW of the Charter Township of Van Buren will meet at the Township Hall, 46425 Tyler Road on Tuesday, December 9, 2003 at 4:00 pm.

The purpose of this meeting will be to correct clerical errors or mutual mistakes of fact

Property assessments can only be changed for :

1. Homestead exemption status.
2. Poverty exemptions.

Any property owner who believes they qualify under items 1 or 2 should call Van Buren Township Assessing Department at 734.699.8946 prior to December 9, 2003.

Joannie Payne, CMC  
Van Buren Charter Township

Publish: November 26, 2003  
December 4, 2003

## CITY OF ROMULUS, MICHIGAN NOTICE TO ELECTORS

TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF ROMULUS, COUNTY OF WAYNE, STATE OF MICHIGAN:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT a Special Election will be held in the City of Romulus, County of Wayne, State of Michigan on Tuesday, December 2, 2003, from 7 o'clock a.m. until 8 o'clock p.m. in the evening, Eastern Standard Time, for the purpose of voting on the following two proposals:

### PROPOSAL-1

SHALL THE CITY OF ROMULUS ALLOW CASINO GAMING WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF ROMULUS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE MICHIGAN GAMING CONTROL AND REVENUE ACT 1997 PUBLIC ACT 69 AND/OR THE FEDERAL INDIAN GAMING REGULATORY ACT?

### PROPOSAL-2

SHALL THE CITY OF ROMULUS ALLOW HORSE RACING, THE ATTENDANT PARIMUTUEL WAGERING, AND OTHER GAMING WITHIN THE CORPORATE LIMITS OF THE CITY OF ROMULUS, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE HORSE RACING LAW OF 1995, 1995 PUBLIC ACT 279.

Public notice is hereby given by the Romulus City Clerk in accordance with Section 168.653a of the Michigan Elections Law.

Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk  
City of Romulus

Publish: November 13, 2003  
November 26, 2003

# Homeland security still a priority with area officials

Theresa Wherrett  
Staff Writer

Would you know what to do if the area was struck with a crisis, such as a natural disaster or terrorist attack?

"Right now is the time to seek information," said Inkster Police Chief Marvin Winkler, during a Homeland Security meeting Monday night. "Not when the lights are out or things are jammed. Have a plan and practice it with your family."

The blackout last summer, Y2K and Sept. 11 may be thought of as training sessions for what to do if another emergency hits the metro area.

"Y2K forced us to do a lot of things we hadn't done before and plan for equipment we hadn't had before," said Wayne County Commissioner Kay Beard. "September 11 made us take a good look at homeland security. Those two things, plus the blackout, helped us to learn where we are and what are some of the things we need to do."

Most cities have had emergency management plans in place to handle problems such as tornadoes or flooding, said Wayne County Executive Robert Ficano. What became obvious, particularly after Sept. 11, is that such emergency management programs are largely reactive, waiting for a disaster to happen. The year-old Homeland Security office is proactive, focused on preparing the community and reducing possible threat to public safety.

"Homeland Security is about anticipation," said Mark Snelson of the Wayne County Department of Homeland Security/Emergency Management (DHSEM). "Our role is to get information to the public and make sure they're just as prepared as the government."

On Oct. 1, the DHSEM issued \$1.6 million in equipment to local communities, for radiological detection, tactical support, decontamination and communication, among other uses.

"We can't hoard equipment at our office," said Snelson. "It would take too long to get the equipment out if it were needed. We've issued everything out to the field."

*We are subject to a regional approach. It is a priority in Wayne County that we have interoperability. Our systems need to talk to each other. If police and emergency personnel can't talk to each other, we will have people wandering into dangerous areas.*

Mark Snelson

Snelson also submitted a grant request this week for \$12.2 million, to be used in Detroit and Wayne County for security measures. There is also \$62.4 million available in federal funds for the State of Michigan. The next phase of grant funding for Wayne County will be to seek part of the \$62.4 million.

"We are subject to a regional approach," said Snelson. "It is a priority in Wayne County that we have interoperability. Our systems need to talk to each other. If police and emergency personnel can't talk to each other, we will have people wandering into dangerous areas." Other parameters for funds include prevention and reduction measures for weapons of mass destruction, and support for those emergency personnel first on the scene.

Citizens should prepare themselves as well.

"If something happens, stay where you are," advised Westland Police Chief Daniel Pfannes. "Leave the kids at school. They're safe there. If everyone goes out in the streets, we won't be able to get the emergency vehicles out. We will give information to the public about what they should do."

Citizens are advised to keep a battery-operated radio to tune in to news broadcasts. The official broadcast system for this area is WJR (AM 760). Additionally, Westland

residents can find information on AM 1700.

"If we need to, we will have police and fire go around and knock on doors," said Westland Mayor Sandra Cicirelli.

The public should also keep certain items on hand at home, such as a first aid kit, and should have an emergency plan thought out.

"We all need to be good like good Boy Scouts – we need to be prepared," said Beard. "It's important to talk about this with your friends and neighbors, and particularly with your own family."

## Tips for being better prepared

Know the location of your utilities and how to turn them off if necessary.

Keep a first aid kit accessible and have an ample supply of necessary medications.

Have a battery-operated radio and extra batteries on hand for listening to emergency broadcast stations.

Keep extra batteries readily available.

Keep cash on hand.

Have candles and flashlights available for emergency lighting.

Know how to contact family members at all times.

Have a three-day supply of food and water available at all times, including in your automobile.

Keep toiletries and paper toweling ready to travel.

Keep your gas tank filled.

Contact your children's school to determine their emergency notification and evacuation plans for students.

Be familiar with evacuation routes from your place of work.

Have a planned evacuation route from your city.

Have a designated location to meet family members.

Be aware of emergency phone numbers. Call your local police and fire departments for further instruction.



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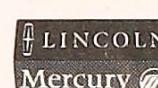
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# OPINION

## Like a good neighbor

When a major company like the Ford Motor Co. decides to invest more than \$400 million in a community, it's pretty clearly a good thing.

Sure enough, when the news broke recently that the automaker would put that kind of money into the Wayne plants, it was greeted with joy from city officials, nearby business owners and city officials, alike.

State lawmakers hailed it as a reverse of two trends: the loss of manufacturing jobs in the State of Michigan and the willingness of large corporations to boost profits by using cheaper labor in other countries.

Employees most likely hailed the news as a major point in job security.

In fact, the announcement represents a coup for members of the United Autoworkers Union, which made the reclamation of jobs that had gone to other countries a major point in their negotiations, nationwide. Jeff Washington, head of UAW Local 900, which includes all three Wayne plants, said the announcement came as a relief to workers, and that Ron Gettelfinger, president of the UAW and Gerald Bennett, vice president of the Ford division of the UAW, should be commended for their work in making that a reality.

City officials welcomed it because it provides for the long-term stability of the City of Wayne.

In fact, it puts the city in an enviable position.

It provides the perfect anchor for business recruitment. And while that can be a good thing, it could have a down side, as well. It could give officials an excuse to be too selective in their efforts to revitalize the city.

This is something that, in a way, is inevitable, at least in appearance. There are always business owners who claim that a city or township has slowed down their project because of an appearance of controversy, while others are put on the fast track. Owners of bars, nightclubs and other places that serve alcohol tend to top that list, but it could be anyone, anywhere.

It's something that city officials can't afford, even though they're sitting in the proverbial catbird seat.

The investment of Ford Motor into the community is certainly a good thing. City officials should take full advantage of it as they try to attract more, large and diverse firms into the city.

## Checks don't balance schedules

There are some government decisions that are guaranteed to spark some form of controversy.

The nature of politics – and the nature of citizenry – virtually guarantees that some decisions will not make everyone happy.

The most controversial and contentious of those, of course, are the ones that seem so self-serving, like decisions on pay increases.

Officials in Plymouth Township found that out last week, when they couldn't get the two-thirds majority needed to reject a proposed pay increase.

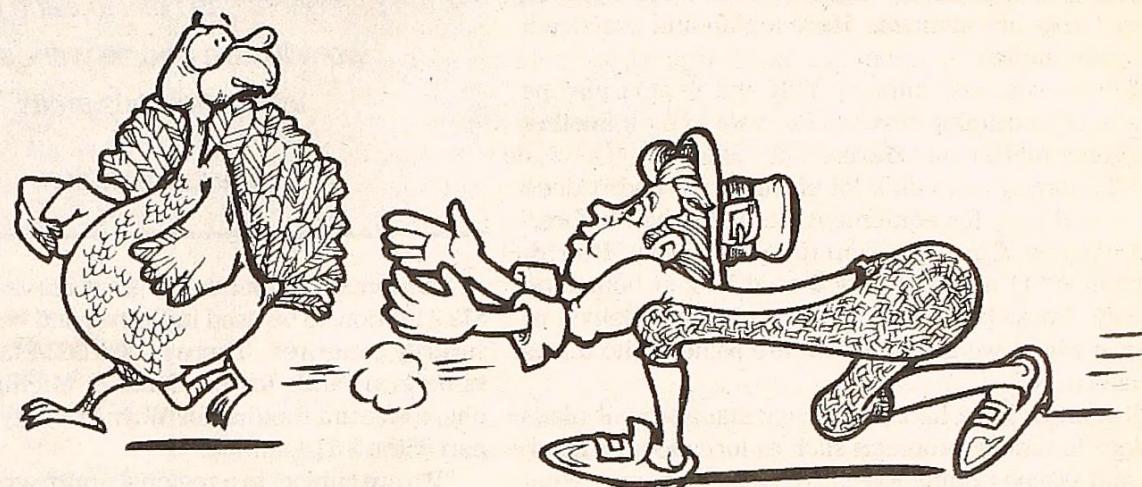
Many may speculate that the only reason they couldn't is because Trustee Abe Munfakh was out of town when the board voted on it Nov. 18, and that most likely is true.

The full-time elected officials – the supervisor, treasurer and clerk – were granted a 2-percent pay increase this year and a 2.5 percent increase next year. Supervisor Steve Mann was the only full time elected official who voted against the increase.

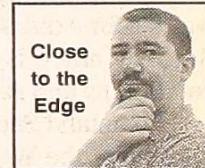
The increases themselves are relatively small. In fact they barely cover the increase in inflation, which is itself at virtually an all-time low. Board members thought, though, that it sent the wrong message at a time when many municipalities are scrambling to cover their own

See **Raises**, page 7

**Happy Thanksgiving,  
From the staff at The Journal Newspapers.**



## Mark your calendars now



The bulk of the citizenry can usually take a deep breath after the election season and go about their daily lives.

They can do that because they've already made their choices and cast their ballots; the candidates they either supported or opposed have won or lost, and there's some breathing room until the next election cycle.

Unless, of course, you're one of those people elected to office. Many times for them, the weeks just after the election are just as tense as the ones leading up to them. In some communities, like the City of Plymouth, there's a new mayor to appoint. In others, like the City of Wayne, the mayor is elected and the appointment goes to the mayor pro tem. And no matter how it looks on television or in the meeting rooms, these choices are often not as quick and painless as they appear. They are usually already decided through phone calls, emails and personal appeals before the official day.

I didn't know what to expect at the first post election meeting in Wayne, since it's the first time I covered an election. In Plymouth, everyone on the commission has chance to say a few parting words to the outgoing commissioners and give them gifts – Mayor Pro Tem Colleen Pobur was the proud recipient of two pairs of baby pajamas, one blue and one pink, each emblazoned with the city seal for the imminent arrival of her twins.

I was hoping for a chance to wish Wayne Councilman Bob Dickerson well, but that wasn't meant to be.

There were other differences between the two changing of the guards, as well. In Plymouth, a 35th District Court judge presides over the swearing in ceremony, and makes sure the incoming commissioners sign where they need to sign. In Wayne, friends and family of the elected officials took the oath of office from the newcomers and those returning to office.

I wasn't sure what to expect from the vote for the

mayor pro tem, but I was relatively certain that everyone would show up for it.

Again, that wasn't meant to be. Donna McEachern wasn't there. She was out of town for 'personal reasons,' which she knew about enough in advance to tell people interested in the Wayne Rotary parade to call Tom Lynch about it two weeks before the event, because she would be out of town.

I may be wrong, but it seems like a case of bad planning to me. I mean, this is the one meeting that always takes place at the same time, every two years. It's where new council members are sworn in, and a mayor pro tem is chosen.

Granted, it's mostly a ceremonial occasion, but I still think it's important for sitting council members to officially welcome anyone new to the council. It's also the only time that a mayor pro tem can be selected, and when one council member is absent, it sets up the possibility for a three-three tie and sets the stage for a protracted and possibly embarrassing discussion of who is better suited for the job.

Again, the mayor pro tem is a largely ceremonial position. The only real power is to preside over meetings when the mayor is absent. It may give added weight when meeting with officials from other municipalities, or business owners who want to move into the city. Other than that, it's just another vote. You'd have to question someone unwilling to give up the post or support someone they know won't do as good a job as another member of the council.

The council should all be there for the vote, though, no matter what type of politicking goes on beforehand. So consider this a request for the sitting city council. Two years from now, after another election, there will be a meeting to welcome the incoming members to the dais and to vote for a new mayor pro tem. Clear your schedules.

## LETTERS

### Racetrack gets neighbor's support

To the editor:

Although I do not live in Romulus, I do want to offer my support of a new racetrack in your city. I live in Livonia and when I travel to other cities I always visit local tracks.

I know some people have said "All the money will go to Canada," but as far as I am concerned all my money is going to other cities already and this would keep my spending much closer to the area I live in.

The casinos downtown probably do not want the competition but I am not a slot player I am a horse

player and this would give me a reason to visit your city on a regular basis.

Since I am not into strip clubs I do not currently spend much money in Romulus. A new racetrack would give your city a new image and a new symbol of recognition.

Bradley D. Hoth,  
Livonia

### Educator favors Romulus track

To the editor:

As a former counselor, principal and assistant superintendent of schools in Romulus, I am especially pleased to lend my support for a "Yes" vote

See **Letters**, page 10

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The Journal Newspapers are published Thursdays  
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Central office hours are 9 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

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## MORE LETTERS

cially pleased to lend my support for a "Yes" vote for the proposed racetrack and casino in Romulus. Having worked there for more than 26 years, I've seen Romulus grow from a rural bedroom community to the thriving metropolis that it has become and can only see the good that added jobs, tax base and tourists that those projects will bring. My only regret is that they're not coming to Inkster.

So I urge voters to vote yes for Romulus and the greater western Wayne County area.

*Dr. Terrel M. LeCesne,  
Inkster*

## Councilman supports race track

*To the editor,*

These are difficult times in Romulus. Many residents in our community are losing their jobs and their homes. Michigan's budget deficit is over \$900 million and Romulus, like communities across the state, is facing drastic cuts in funding.

Romulus needs jobs and revenue, and we need them now. We have the opportunity on Tuesday, Dec. 2, to do something about these

pressing needs. I believe Proposal 2 - the racetrack proposal - is our best and quickest catalyst for economic development, revenue growth and jobs. Once our city administrative process is completed, Magna Entertainment Corp. project at the northeast corner of Wick and Vining Roads can be operational in just 18 months!

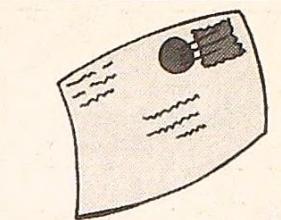
The project Magna wants to build now in our community will create thousands of good jobs and generate millions of dollars for our city and schools. It is estimated that once the project is built, Magna's payments to Romulus will equal around \$875 per year per household in Romulus.

As many of you know already, I have publicly stated my support for the Magna project after studying this opportunity very carefully. I know that Magna is committed to the communities in which it locates. Those communities have experienced the benefits of world-wide recognition. We have patiently waited for an opportunity of this magnitude for two decades. While I am impressed with the benefits projected by proponents of the casino, there is no question that we, the citizens of Romulus, will see the equally attractive benefits of

the Magna mixed-use development much sooner and with far more certainty.

I have personally discussed this proposal with fellow citizens, and many believe that passing Proposal 2 is critical to the future of our town. The time to do something about jobs and revenue is now. It is with heartfelt confidence I believe the Magna project can provide the level of employment, economic growth and recognition our community needs to become full and vibrant. Voting yes on Proposal 2 Dec. 2 will provide the first opportunity for growth in our city in the past 20 years.

*Charles R. Miller,  
Romulus City Councilman*

Send us  
your letters

The Journal welcomes all signed letters to the editor and will consider all submissions for publication. Mail letters to: The Journal, P.O. Box 578, Wayne, MI 48184. Letters may be edited for content or space and must include a phone number for verification.

## Raises

FROM PAGE 6

budgets, even if Plymouth Township isn't among those municipalities.

The process used by the township is, in essence, a good one. They rely on a merit commission that uses other communities as a benchmark. The commission is an appointed one, but relatively independent of the township board itself, if last Tuesday's vote is any indicator.

The pay increases automatically go into effect unless the two-thirds of the township board votes against them. The board must also act on them within 30 days of the recommendation of the merit commission, which this time took place on Nov. 10. That's why a desire to have the item put

off until next month, when the whole board is present, wasn't approved. The board of trustees won't meet, unless they call a special meeting, before then.

Is there a way to handle the situation better? Perhaps. The state legislature had a similar policy before Thad McCotter, then a state senator, sponsored legislation that effectively turned it around. A two-thirds majority is now required to approve a pay raise, not reject it. The township could visit something like that.

Or it might simply be a matter of more effective time management, making sure the recommendation comes down at a time when the board will have more than one opportunity to act on it.

The current policy is a good one, and addresses most of the areas likely to raise concerns. A few minor changes would make it all that much better.

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## AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODIFIED ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF WAYNE

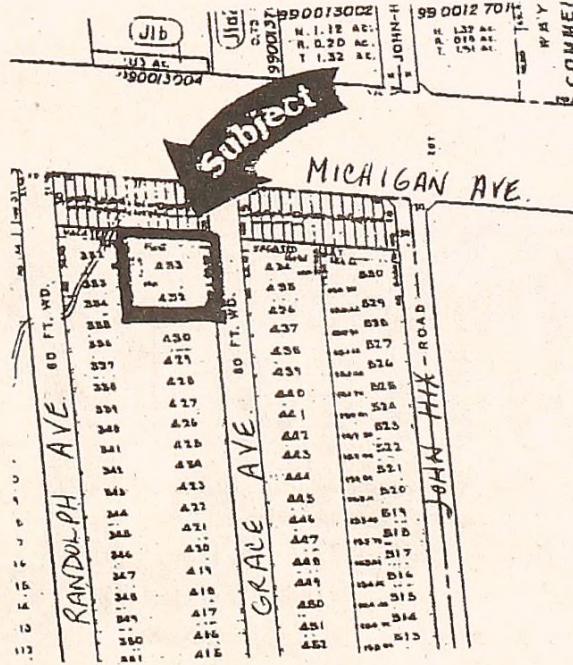
THE CITY OF WAYNE ORDAINS:

Section 1. THAT THE ZONING MAP OF THE CITY OF WAYNE, BASED ON THE APPROVED DOCUMENTATION RECEIVED ON NOVEMBER 18, 2003, BE AMENDED AND CHANGED TO SHOW B-3, BUSINESS EXTENSIVE, WHERE R-1C SINGLE FAMILY RESIDENTIAL, IS NOW SHOWN, AS HEREINAFTER DESCRIBED:

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Section 3. That this Ordinance shall become effective ten days after enactment and upon publication thereof.



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## ABSTRACT

## WAYNE CITY COUNCIL MEETING NO. 2003-30

November 18, 2003

Special Meeting of the City Council held Tuesday, November 18, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. at Wayne Community Center, 4635 Howe Rd. All Members Present. Adjourned to Closed Session at 7:08 p.m. to discuss labor negotiations.

Mary E. Carney  
City Clerk

Publish: November 26, 2003

Mary E. Carney  
City Clerk

Publish: November 26, 2003

# Here are some of your neighbors endorsing a **YES** vote on Proposal 2

**Madeline Arkuski**

Romulus resident and community activist

**Mario Arredondo**

Owner, Juanita's Mexican Restaurant

**Robert A. Bovitz, CPA**

President, Bovitz, CPA

**Michael J. Conway**

Director of External Relations, Detroit Metro Airport

**David B. Goodwin**

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**Jerry Kittle**

President, Global Communications

**Joseph Kochanoski**

President, International Paint Stripping, 50-year resident

**Charles R. Miller**

Romulus City Councilman

**Mel Morgan**

Owner, Global Investment, lifelong Romulus resident and activist

**James Napiorkowski**

Former Treasurer, City of Romulus

**Diane Nimeth**

Bank One branch manager

**Patrick Novack**

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**Phil Renke**

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**Oscar H. Rhoton, Jr.**

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**Michigan Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association**

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# Arts group seeking former senior building

Scott Spielman  
Editor

The Senior Citizens program in Northville may have outgrown the old Senior Citizens facility on Cady Street, but a number of other organizations have an interest in the future use of the site.

The Northville Arts Commission (NAC) became the latest community group to express an interest in the former scout building, which is just west of the Northville Post Office.

At a recent meeting of the Parks and Recreation Commission, the NAC outlined a brief proposal for an artistic use for the 1,200-square-foot structure.

"It would be a perfect place for an art center," said Ken Naigus, chairperson of the NAC. "There's a lot of demand. We would provide for a wide range of interests."

He said he envisioned the structure as a headquarters for the NAC, which doesn't have a permanent home. They would sponsor art classes, art shows and provide a space for poetry classes and readings and drama classes, much like the Joanne Winkleman Center for the Arts provides a home base for the Plymouth Community Arts Council (PCAC).

"We think it's a great space," Naigus said. "We don't really have a permanent home."

Traci Sincock, director of Northville Parks and Recreation, said other groups have expressed an interest in the site, too. Recently members of the Northville Youth Advisory Council (YAC) presented a proposal to boards like the school board, city council and township board of trustees for the site. They would use it as an after school teen hangout, sort of like a perma-

nent clubhouse for teens.

"It's always nice to see really unique projects come out of a proposal like this," Sincock said.

The building currently houses the senior citizen's program, but the Northville Community Center is in the beginning phases of a renovation that will transform it into a larger center for seniors, as well as the rest of the community. The building on Cady Street isn't up to modern handicapped-accessible codes — the 1,200 square feet of space in the building is split into two floors only accessible by a stairway.

"It's a very challenging space," Sincock said.

Brad Werner, a township trustee who also sits on the parks and recreation commission, said he would like to investigate the possibility of sharing the building. One group could use the upper floor and another, the lower, he said.

"My first thought was that any time you get a group of teens together, you need some adult supervision," he said. "Maybe they could work out an agreement."

Naigus said it was an idea that the NAC had discussed as well. He said he had listened to the proposal from the youth commission, too.

"A number of things they're interested in are art-related," he said. "It's possible that we could help out in those areas."

The decision will ultimately be made by the Northville City Council, however. The City of Northville owns the building. Sincock said some private parties had expressed an interest, as well, and she would probably send out a Request For Proposals (RFP) on the site so city council members could make a decision on the best use of the building.

## Holiday memorial service set

Meghan Chatham  
Staff Writer

Christmas, with family gatherings, visits from Santa Claus, and manger scenes, is frequently associated with children, which makes it a particularly difficult time for families that have lost children to accidents or illness.

In an effort to remember children who have died, Compassionate Friends of Livonia will participate in the 2003 Worldwide Candle Lighting Ceremony beginning at 6:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14 in Kellogg Park in downtown Plymouth.

"We want the world to know that our kids live on. We haven't forgotten them," said Chapter Leader Pat O'Donnell, who joined the group after the death of his 18-year-old son.

According to the Compassionate Friends web site, the Worldwide Candle Lighting ceremony takes place every year on the second Sunday in December. The lighting occurs at 7 p.m. in every time zone, one area after the other.

"It is absolutely international," said O'Donnell. "The whole world is lit up for at least a day."

Even the U.S. Senate gets involved. O'Donnell said that for the past several years, the Senate has approved a resolution officially recognizing the second Sunday in December as National Children's Memorial Day.

The Kellogg Park ceremony, which will feature a short program designed to help families cope with the empty chair at holiday gatherings, will begin at 6:30 p.m.

"For us, there is this huge hole that needs to be filled, and it will not be filled the way we want it," said O'Donnell.

When the candles are lit at 7 p.m., the names of the children being memorialized will be read.

"We probably read off 350 kids' names (each year)," said O'Donnell. He added that the ceremony, which he said the club has celebrated for about five years, generally draws more than 500 people, both family and friends of the lost children.

In addition, a tree filled with ornaments bearing the children's names will be on display. Anyone interested in helping to prepare the ornaments should meet at St. Timothy's Church, located on the east side of Newburg Road just south of Six Mile Road, at 6:30 p.m. Monday, Dec. 1.

According to O'Donnell, the ceremony can help survivors cope with their grief.

"Initially, I didn't want to go. It is a forced recognition (of the child's death). ... But just going out is helpful. To hear your child's name is part of the recognition that things will never be the same," said O'Donnell.

For more information on the Compassionate Friends of Livonia, or to register your child's name for recognition during the candle-lighting ceremony, call the Compassionate Friends at 734-788-0800. For more information, visit the web site at [www.tcflivonia.org](http://www.tcflivonia.org). The group meets from 7 to 9 p.m. on the first Wednesday of every month at St. Timothy's Presbyterian Church, located on Newburg Road, just south of Six Mile Road.

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**The Country Flair**  
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HOMES SURROUNDED BY OPEN LAND,  
LANDSCAPING & WATER.

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**FEATURING**  
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0% APR UP TO 72 MOS.

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INCLUDES UAW INCENTIVE BONUS!  
SAVE OVER \$8,000  
WAS \$22,230 BUY FROM \$15576\*  
36 mo. lease/\$178.75 due with \$50 sec. dep.

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INCLUDES UAW INCENTIVE BONUS!  
SAVE OVER \$6,000  
WAS \$21,075 BUY FROM \$16650\*  
36 mo. lease/\$189.50 due with \$50 sec. dep.

**2004 CHEVY BLAZER**  
INCLUDES UAW INCENTIVE BONUS!  
SAVE OVER \$9,000  
WAS \$24,355 BUY FROM \$15818\*  
36 mo. lease/\$181.18 due with \$50 sec. dep.

**2004 CHEVY TRAILBLAZER**  
INCLUDES UAW INCENTIVE BONUS!  
SAVE OVER \$9,000  
WAS \$29,280 BUY FROM \$22008\*  
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• Coolant Flush • Lube, Oil & Filter Change  
• Wiper Blade Replacement  
• Engine oil replacement up to 5 qt. • New AC Delco oil filter • Complete chassis lube, top off fluids, tire pressure, air filter • Wiper blades up to 23 inches • Red or Green Coolant up to 1 gal. • Synthetic oil is available at additional charge • Some restrictions may apply • Expires 12/01/03

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# Don't be Fooled!



## ● Romulus loses BIG with Proposal 1 & 2

Romulus will NOT get the same deal as Detroit. The proposed gambling facilities have NOT made the same kind of commitment to this community. Romulus gets more crime and more traffic, but none of the benefit.

***There is NO commitment to create jobs  
for those living in our community.***

***There is NO commitment to provide Romulus  
with our FAIR share of gaming revenue.***

## ● Crumbs off the table

While Detroit gets 10 percent of casino revenues, Romulus will get next to nothing. The owners of the proposed casino will give our community less than 2 percent while the owners of the race track will give even less money. That's not a good deal for Romulus. We get all the headaches while the casino owners keep all the cash.

## ● No guaranteed local jobs

Sure, they say that the casino and racetrack will create jobs, but those are just promises, and that's not good enough for us.

In most towns, the proposed casino owners guarantee in a written contract that a certain percentage of jobs would go to local residents, but there no such guarantee with either of these proposals. In fact, in Detroit, the casinos have a contract with the city to give 50 percent of the jobs to Detroit residents. We have nothing to ensure that Romulus residents get a single job with the proposed casino or racetrack.

## ● NO local control

A Native American tribe would own the proposed casino. That means no local government oversight, and the casino will not have to pay property taxes. Romulus will have little or no control over the casino.

The company that wants to bring a horse racetrack to Romulus is based out of Toronto, Canada. Again, this company has no local connection and is not committed to this community. In fact, the profits for this casino will head back to Toronto, with almost nothing staying here to help our local government.

## ● Teenagers will be able to gamble legally in Romulus!

The proposal that allows casino gaming in the city of Romulus includes a provision that could allow teenagers to gamble. If this proposal passes, at 18 while our kids are still in high school, our sons and daughters might be able to walk into a Romulus casino and gamble, just like adults. At the racetrack, they could gamble when they turned 18.

Basically, at 18, they're still kids. Yet, unless we take action to stop gambling in our city, these 'kids' will be able to legally gamble in our city. Let's not let our kids gamble with their lives!

## ● This is just a BAD bet! Romulus gets nothing from Proposals 1 & 2!

Romulus gets more crime and more traffic, but none of the benefit. Proposal 1 & 2 is just not good enough. There's no guarantee of jobs for people who live here, and we'll get next to nothing in casino revenue. It's nothing more than a rip off for Romulus. That's why you should vote NO on Proposals 1 & 2.

# Vote NO December 2 on Proposals 1 & 2. It's a bad bet for Romulus!

# BUSINESS

## Back to work 'Retired' hair stylist returns with new salon

Heather Connor  
Staff Writer

A full retirement just wasn't in the cards for Denny Idrizi.

After more than 30 years of experience as a hairdresser, Idrizi decided to sell his hair salon in Westland earlier this year. But he soon set his sights on a small building for sale on Main Street in Belleville, and an idea for a new start in his beloved profession set in.

"I don't think I'm ready to retire," Idrizi said. "Only when I cut hair do I feel comfortable, like myself. Behind the chair is the best place for me."

Idrizi said he has regularly visited friends in Belleville for the past 20 years and has enjoyed the beautiful atmosphere of the city. He had noticed the building next door to city hall back in the 1980s and thought it would make a great location for a salon.

When Idrizi noticed the building for sale this past summer, he said he thought this would be his chance to make his vision a reality. He opened Denny's Hair Salon at 36 Main St. earlier this month.

Barbers are not offered a pension when they retire, Idrizi said, and he sees the salon as an investment in his future. Now that Idrizi is financially secure, he said he was ready to take on a new challenge. He also said he looks forward to enjoying recreation on Belleville Lake next summer.

"I think Belleville is like a hidden town, kept secret for many years," Idrizi said. "Everyone has been very helpful and very kind."

Belleville is a growing community and is in need of an upscale salon, Idrizi said. Many people travel away from their hometown to get their hair done, he said, and Belleville residents need to have a choice in salons, just as they have a choice in where they buy their food or enjoy a meal.

"A business with a good name, whether it is another salon or a restaurant, will help to bring business to the street," Idrizi said.

Idrizi said he has won seven trophies from hair-styling shows from around the area. He has won five trophies from the state,



Denny Idrizi (center) cuts the ribbon on his new hair salon in Belleville. The salon, located next to city hall on Main Street, opened earlier this month.

one from Chicago and one from Toronto. One of his stylists has also won a trophy. Idrizi said he plans to offer the experience of high-caliber hair stylists for reasonable prices.

"I am bringing to Belleville my 30 years of experience in styling," Idrizi said.

Denny's Hair Salon also offers

a barber shop and styling facilities for both men and women. The salon hours are from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. Thursday and from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday. For more information or to make an appointment call Denny's Hair Salon at (734) 697-4485.

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**2002 Honda Odyssey EX**



Loaded, power sliding doors  
**100K WARRANTY \$22,995**



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## "Pic of the Week"



Marta

## Canton New Year celebration set

Sharon Emeigh  
Staff Writer

Tickets are now available for the New Years Eve celebration in Canton Township. Canton Leisure Services has organized the event for the past seven years at Summit on the Park.

The evening will begin at 7 at Summit on the Park with hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, according to Rosemary Globke, coordinator of the banquet and conference center for leisure services.

The party is for adults only,

according to Globke. A deluxe bar will be open from 7 p.m. until 1 a.m. Local Canton DJ, Silver Sounds, will provide musical entertainment throughout the night.

Also, there will be a champagne toast at the stroke of midnight.

Leisure Services would like to encourage attendees to get their tickets early, Globke said. In order to ensure that those who attend have a good time that is not too crowded, the event will be limited to 200 people, she added.

So, until Nov. 29, Canton residents can purchase tickets for \$80 per guest. Non-residents can purchase tickets for \$85 per guest. In December, the price goes up to \$90 for anyone who would like to attend the festivities.

Tickets can be purchased over the phone with a Visa or MasterCard by calling the banquet and conference center at 734-394-5487 or in person at the banquet and conference center at the Summit on the Park from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday.

## KIA No Payments Till New Year

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**10 YEAR/100,000 MILES POWERTRAIN WARRANTY**

### 2003 KIA RIO

Power steering, center console, tilt wheel, 8-way adjustable driver seat, rear de-frost, glass and more. Stk. #K34071

\$7,995\*  
DR \$117 PER MO.

### 2003 KIA SPECTRA

Air Cond., Auto. CD Player Included! Dual air bags, AM/FM/CD, dual remote mirrors, split folding rear seat, remote fuel and trunk release. Stk. #K31136

\$8,951\*  
DR \$131 PER MO.

### 2004 KIA OPTIMA LX

A/C, dual front/side air bags, AM/FM/CD, pwr wind/locks/mirrors, tilt, cruise, split folding rear seat & more. Stk. #W35027

\$10,995\*  
DR \$167 PER MO.

### 2003 KIA SEDONA EX

Driver & passenger pwr seats, AM/FM cassette & CD, 6-speakers, quad seating, dual A/C. Stk. #K36142

\$14,990\*  
DR \$237 PER MO.

ATTENTION! NISSAN EMPLOYEES & SUPPLIERS SAVE EVEN MORE! 2003 NISSAN PATHFINDER SE 4X4

## 2003 NISSAN ALTIMA S

0.9% APR Available up to 60 mos.

**\$17,680\***  
BUY LEASE \$179 PER MO. PAYMENT

0.9% APR Available Up to 60 mos.

**\$21,495\*** BUY \$284.58 PER MO. PAYMENT  
LEASE 36 MO. LEASE MD. PAYMENT

**\$23,495\*** BUY \$296 PER MO. PAYMENT  
LEASE 36 MO. LEASE MD. PAYMENT

Auto., 4x4, sunroof, SE popular pkg., floor mats, full power & more.

**\$19,946**  
Was \$19,946

**\$1999 INITIAL PAYMENT**

# CLASSIFIED

01. Obituaries  
02. In Memoriam  
03. Cards of Thanks  
04. Monuments &/w Cemetery Plots  
05. Personals  
06. Legal Notices  
07. Attorneys  
08. Entertainment  
09. Lost & Found  
10. Coming Events  
31. Help Wanted Sales

32. Help Wanted  
33. Child Care  
34. Specialized Services  
35. Situations Wanted  
40. Business Opportunity  
42. Pawn Shops  
43. Money to Loan  
44. Music Lessons  
45. Art Lessons  
46. Private Instruction  
47. Schools  
50. Pets & Supplies

54. Poultry - Livestock  
55. Farm Equipment/Supplies  
56. Animal Feed  
57. Antiques  
58. Flea Markets  
59. Auctions  
60. Misc. Sales  
61. Misc. Items  
62. Building Supplies  
63. Business with Office & Equipment  
64. Lawn & Garden Supplies

65. Tree Service  
66. Fuel  
67. Garden Plant / Supplies  
68. Garden / Produce  
70. Christmas Trees  
72. Machinery Tools  
73. Musical Merchandise  
74. Sporting Goods  
75. Boats / Accessories  
76. Snowmobiles  
77. Recreation Vehicles  
78. Aircraft

82. Wanted to Buy  
87. Room for Rent  
88. Duplexes for Rent  
89. Apartments for Rent  
90. Condos for Rent  
92. Business Places for Rent  
93. Banquet Halls  
94. Farm Land for Rent  
95. Garages for Rent  
97. Cottages for Rent  
98. Mobile Homes for Rent  
99. Mobile Home Lots for Rent

100. Will Share  
101. Wanted to Rent  
102. Storage  
103. Business with Property  
104. Farms with Acreage  
105. Mobile Homes for Sale  
106. Houses for Sale  
107. Condos for Sale  
108. Lake with Resort  
109. Income with Property  
110. Lots for Sale  
111. Out of State Property

112. Commercial Lease  
113. Real Estate Wanted  
114. Auto Accessories  
115. Autos for Sale  
116. Antique & Classic Cars  
117. Trucks & Vans for Sale  
118. Handicapped Vehicles  
119. Auto Repairs  
120. Motorcycles  
121. Autos Wanted

## 5. Personals

Standout This Year  
Gifts/Certificates of  
The Finest Seafood  
to the Exotic

[www.seafoodharbor.com](http://www.seafoodharbor.com)

## 31. Sales Help Wanted

## FULL OR PART-TIME

The Journal Newspapers seeking Inside Sales Reps for the Classified Advertising Department. The qualified candidate will possess excellent communication skills and relationship building characteristics. Prior telemarketing experience preferred but will train the right individual. Please forward resumes to:

The Journal Newspapers  
ATTN: Rob Young  
35540 W. Michigan Avenue  
Wayne, MI 48184

Equal Opportunity Employer

## 32. Help Wanted

Hair Stylist Wanted:

If you feel you are a above average Hairstylist Call us:  
We pay Top Dollar Commission.  
Denny's Hair Salon  
Belleville  
734-697-4485

Merchandiser needed to service magazines and books at retail stores in the Westland-Canton areas

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## 61. Misc. Items

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PARTS AND SERVICE

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**SCOOTERS • MOPEDS • MOTORCYCLES • ATVs**

**SHIPPING AVAILABLE**

**NP50T-B2**  
49cc Atv 110 mph, oil inj.,  
2-speed, 4-wheel  
BACK TO SCHOOL SPECIAL  
\$795 #M-1-35504

**2003 LXR LS90-1T**  
90cc Atv, 2-cycle eng, Oil injection,  
elect. start, 4-wheel shrt off,  
EARLY FALL SPECIAL  
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Parts and Service for All Makes and Models of Motorcycles, Snowmobiles & ATVs

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## 59. Auctions

Notice of Public Sale, pursuant to State Law, a sale will be held on December 16, 2003 on the contents of the following units at 1 p.m. C 2-4= Dance Extreme= trash cans, dance background scenes D-21= Janet Armstrong= Furniture, Boxes H-15= Glen Tabor= Furniture, boxes, TV VCR, microwave H-29= Marcus Johnson= Furniture, boxes, VCR A-20= Colleen McDonald= Furniture, boxes lamps E-28= Albert Kemps jr= Furniture, boxes pictures, fan F-26= B. Alfred Tarr= Furniture, boxes, TV, clocks, radio, Video cassette recorder I-30= Gary Sova= Boxes, stove, frig, tool box, tools, ladder, saw I-44= David Kaszubowski= furniture, boxes J-40= Daniel Cottrell= Triton Trailer, Yamaha wave runner, weights, TV, bed, etc America's Budget Storage 40671 Joy Road, Canton, MI

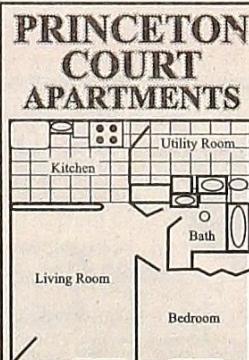
## 60. Misc. Sales

Firewood For Sale  
Split Mixed Hardwood  
\$40 a face cord  
734-461-6895  
25085 Sumpter, Belleville

## GOT RATS? MICE?

Enforcer RatMax bait kills in 1 feeding. Guaranteed. Available at Family Dollar Stores.

## 89. Apartments for Rent



Peaceful, Ranch Style  
1 Bedroom Apartments  
Private Entry & Patio  
Small Pets Welcome

## SHORT TERM LEASES AVAILABLE

1ST Month \$199  
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Convenient Wilcox/  
Haggerty Area  
Plymouth

## 61. Misc. Items

10 piece cherry dinette. Queen Ann Style. New, Still In Box. Worth \$3800 MUST SELL \$1500 Can Deliver. 248-470-3350

5 Piece Bedroom Set. Brand New. In Box. MUST SELL \$400 Can Deliver. 248-470-3350

7 Piece Cherry Sleigh Bed Brand New / In Box MUST SELL \$650 Can Deliver 248-470-3350

FULL PILLOWTOP MATT/BOX SET -NEW IN PLASTIC- NAME BRAND \$125.00 (248)470-3350

KING PILLOWTOP MATT/BOX SET NEW IN PLASTIC With WARRANTY-\$225. 248-470-3350

QUEEN PILLOWTOP MATT/BOX SET NEW IN PLASTIC W WARRANTY ONLY \$160. 248-470-3350

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## 89. Apartments For Rent

3 BEDROOM \$700.00 MO. TOTAL MOVE-IN \$1,400. WILDWOOD&PALMER AREA 2225 DELTON COURT CALL (734)595-3580 TENANT PAYS ALL UTILITIES

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**Belmont Manor apartments**  
TWO MONTHS FREE RENT!  
Limited Time Only!  
Spacious 1 Bedroom Apartment  
WAS \$560 - now ONLY \$535\*

Spacious 2 Bedroom Apartment  
WAS \$660 - now ONLY \$635\*

• Extensive Storage • Fitness Center  
• Minutes from Eastern MI University,  
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(Main St.) On Huron River Drive

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\*on selected units [www.SMCLiving.com](http://www.SMCLiving.com)

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92. Business Places for Rent  
93. Banquet Halls  
94. Farm Land for Rent  
95. Garages for Rent  
97. Cottages for Rent  
98. Mobile Homes for Rent  
99. Mobile Home Lots for Rent

Norwayne-Duplex for Rent-2028 Elsworth/Wildwood & Palmer Area. \$535 MO, Total \$1,070. Moves you in. (734) 595-3580

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Apartments has 1 and 2 bedroom apartments and townhouses available starting at \$610/month. Includes water, porch or balcony, window treatments, swimming pool, community building and basement storage. Open daily from 8-4 and Saturday from 12-4. Please call 734-420-0888 for more information or see our display advertisement listed below. Don't forget to ASK ABOUT OUR SPECIALS!!!

## 61. Misc. Items

### COLLECTABLES

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**313-543-2515**

**Worship DIRECTORY**

## Bethlehem Lutheran Church

Sunday Service is at 10:00 am w/ Pastor Jim Richter

734-699-5000 [Bethlehem@comcast.net](mailto:Bethlehem@comcast.net) (Between I-94 and Ecorse Rd)

## Grace Lutheran Church

46001 Warren Road • just west of Canton-Center

Sunday Worship at 9:30 am Sunday School at 10:45 am

**734-414-7422**

## Christ Temple Apostolic Faith Church

DISTRICT ELDER LUKE A. McCLENDON, PASTOR

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Sunday School 10 A.M. - Service 11 A.M. Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7:30 P.M. Pastor Earl Duncan

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734-367-3029

35351 Beverly Rd.  
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Service Hours Sunday School 9:30 A.M.  
Worship 11:00 A.M. Pastor C.L. Nesbitt  
Everyone Is Welcome To Come

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Large Unfurnished Studio.  
\$135/week included all  
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31481 Alcona, Westland 2  
Bedroom, Fenced Yard,  
Good Condition, \$505 /  
month, Duplex separated  
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4 1/2 miles North of I-275  
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Open: Tue.-Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 12pm-6pm  
Holiday Hours: 12/21 & 12/28 10am-6pm, Open Monday  
12/22 & 12/29 10am-6pm, Closed 12/24-12/26 & 12/31-1/1  
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Bedroom, Well maintained,  
heat, water, A/C included,  
no pets, \$475 call a manager @ 734-729-2108 or  
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WESTLAND 1-2 bdrm.,  
nice and clean, incl. heat,  
water and gas, \$500-1  
bdrm., \$575-2 bdrm.

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Belleville - 2 Bedrooms, 1  
1/2 Baths, 2 Story, finished  
basement, convenient  
parking, pool, clubhouse,  
appliances stay, lake  
access, shines with TLC.  
\$1,400.00 per month /  
\$400.00 Security Deposit.  
Credit check required.  
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**BELLEVILLE**  
3 bedroom, basement,  
garage, fenced

**PLYMOUTH**  
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appliances, \$700  
**OVER 2500**  
**AVAILABLE**  
**RENTALS**  
**RENTAL**

**PROFESSIONALS**  
**734-513-RENT**

**INKSTER**

3 bedroom, option  
to buy, \$650

**ROMULUS**

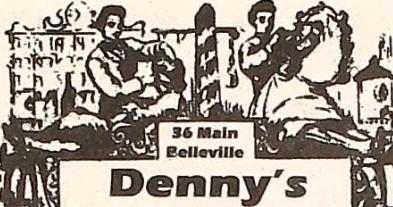
3 bedroom, garage,  
basement, air, \$800

**RENTAL  
PROFESSIONALS**  
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Inkster  
4 bedroom, 2 bath  
\$950 mth + deposit  
all appliances

734-564-1080

**Looking to  
buy or sell?  
Call Rob at  
734-467-1900 to place  
your classified ad.**

**32. Help Wanted****HAIR STYLIST WANTED!**

If you feel you are an above  
average hair stylist,  
call Denny's Hair Salon.  
Top commission paid at the  
hottest uptown salon.  
Call 734-697-4485 for details.

**36 Main Belleville**

The Journal regularly delivers sample copies of our newspaper to many areas throughout the community. The usual pattern is four weeks of delivery and then we move the samples to another area. Some locations, however, receive the paper more often. If you would like to receive the paper EVERY WEEK, you must be a subscriber.

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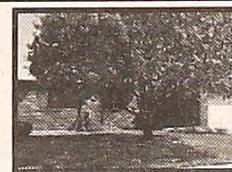
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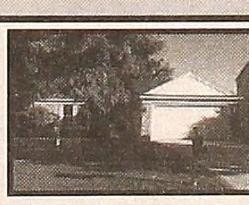
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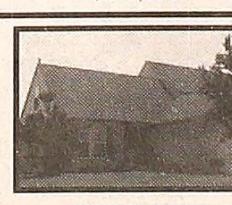
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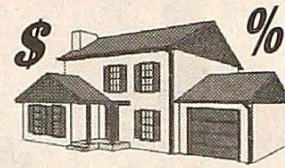
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# School officials ponder bond option

Jeff Novak  
Staff Writer

Members of the Plymouth-Canton Board of Education could only scratch their heads and shrug their shoulders after the bond steering committee presented their final report during a special meeting last Tuesday night – not because they were confused, but because they knew that they would have a very difficult decision to make in the next few months.

How large a bond issue, if any at all, should – and could – the community be asked to support? That is the question the board members now face.

The committee presented an extensive 46-page report with additional appendices that included all three Vision Planning Session presentations, a facility study update, special education data, technology report, housing and enrollment data, athletic facility usage, bus replacement plan, middle school educational specifications, new middle school supporting data and middle school renovation supporting data.

"I have never seen a report with this kind of depth," board president Judy Mardigian said. "The committee has done an outstanding job."

The main portion of the report dealt with two main topics: facility needs and facility wants. The report listed 38 "needs," which included such things as; site drainage improvements, sump pumps and roof repairs to protect infrastructure; upgrade of domestic and storm water systems to meet current state and federal codes; and the replacement of carpet, chalkboards, kitchen equipment, stage curtains, water heaters and boilers required to meet board of education and administrative educational goals and objectives and replacement plans.

Although no final costs or decisions have been made, the report illustrates that, if the board decided to fulfill all of the needs listed in the report, it could cost the community as much as \$91.4 million and an additional \$235,000 in operating costs for new unit ventilators, including air conditioning.

The "wants" list added an additional 40 items that would, according to the report, make upgrades to "make everyday educational experience easier, more comfortable (e.g. storage, AC, arc.)," and meet "physical needs of students (e.g. covered walk ways between the high schools)." Other "want" items included: new play equipment, window replacement, landscape upgrades, lighting upgrades, expansion of the elementary schools to regain art and music rooms and athletic field upgrades.

Again, no final numbers or decisions have been made by the board members, however, if they fulfilled the entire "wants" list it would add another \$99.7 million to the bond issue. That doesn't include the possible new elementary and middle school options.

The bond committee provided enrollment projections, based on numbers from Stanfred Associates, which showed a possible increase of 755 students in the next five years. From there, they presented a

financial comparison between the construction of a new elementary school with a capacity of 750 students to the cost of expanding existing schools.

The cost to the community to build a new elementary school would be about \$13.7 million, which includes \$1.2 million paid for property that would be returned to the district fund balance if the bond is approved within three years of the property purchase. The cost to expand five existing schools is approximately \$12.5 million, according to the committee report. The operating costs for a new school were slightly lower, \$715,000, opposed to \$1.2 million for the expansion option.

The quandary and issue which prompted the most debate was the question of renovating Central Middle School or building new middle school and using Central for an alternative purpose.

"This was one of the most emotional areas of discussion," said Ken Jacobs, one of the tri-chairs of the bond committee. "We looked at as much as we could and provided the best numbers as possible."

The committee devised four options for Central. Option A would renovate Central and continue use as a middle school; Pioneer, East and West middle schools would also be renovated; a staff development center would

be included; Starkweather and Tanger would also be renovated.

Options B, C and D would all incorporate a new middle school; renovation of Pioneer, East and West middle schools; include a staff development center and use Tanger as a magnet school.

The differences are: B would renovate Central to move Starkweather and the school board offices in and sell those existing buildings. Option C would renovate Central, move Starkweather in, eliminate the pool and use the gym for non-gym purposes and sell the existing Starkweather building. Option D calls for the renovation of Central and maintaining the pool and gym areas, move Starkweather in and sell the existing building. The costs for the different options range from \$30.7-\$40.7 million.

"We could not come to a consensus for one course of action to take," said Jeff Grimes, a tri-chair member of the bond committee. "We recommend that the board do some further digging and research on the matter."

Board members and Superintendent of Schools Dr. Jim Ryan were impressed with the amount of work that the committee did on the report and the amount of information that they provided.

"I think the committee was very creative in presenting some of the issues," said Ryan. "They took some of the emotion out of some emotional topics. This report will be an invaluable source for the board as to whether it will need to consider a bond issue."

How much of a bond, if one is needed, will be too much for the public to approve? That is still the tough decision the board will have to make.

"It comes down to what the community will support," Mardigian said. "Ultimately, that is what it comes down to."

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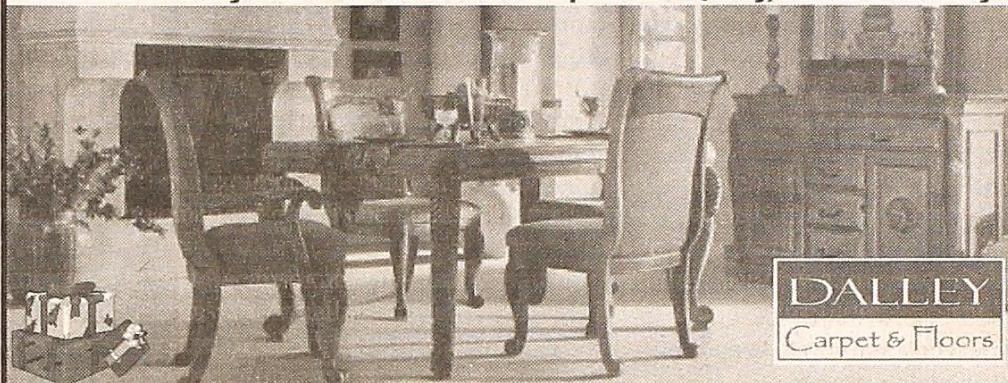
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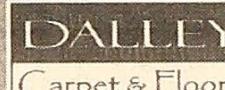
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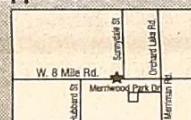


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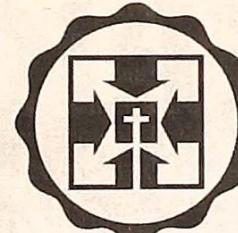


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# Holiday Taste Fest planned

Theresa Wherrett  
Staff Writer

Local residents looking for a delicious way to begin the holiday season may want to stop by the 2003 Holiday Taste Fest, scheduled for 6 until 9 p.m. Dec. 2 at the Hellenic Cultural Center, 36375 Joy Road.

Selections from area restaurants and culinary artists will be available for patrons to sample,

according to Westland Chamber of Commerce President Lori Brist. Participating restaurants include the Michigan Star Clipper Dinner Train, Mary Denning's Cake Shoppe, The Stick Café, the William D. Ford Career Tech Center and Toarmina's Pizza, among others.

In addition on gourmet fare, festival attendees can silently bid on art offered by professional artists and Wayne-Westland

students. Pam Rossi, a dsic jockey from WCSX. 94.7 FM radio, will make a special appearance.

Tickets are available in advance at the Westland Chamber of Commerce or may be purchased at the door. Adult tickets are \$20; senior and student tickets are \$15. All proceeds will go to the Joseph Benyo Scholarship Fund and the Westland Chamber of Commerce.

## Inkster plans annual Christmas ceremony

Molly Tippen  
Staff Writer

Despite budget cuts endured by the parks and recreation department earlier this year, the City of Inkster Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will happen on schedule.

Parks and Recreation Director Ron Wolkowicz said Friday that 11th-hour meetings with representatives from the Summerfest Committee and the Zeta Phi Beta and Alpha Kappa Alpha sororities resulted in a plan to provide funding and in-kind contributions to keep the 30-year-tradition going.

"It wasn't in the budget; (the cuts meant) something had to go," Wolkowicz said. "But community groups have stepped up to help us out. A couple of sororities and

the Summerfest Committee have pledged to help us with funds and volunteers."

He added that normally, in years where city finances haven't been as tight, the plans for the tree lighting were under way sooner. Currently, parks and recreation employees and department of public works employees are busily working to put plans and decorations into place.

"Public service has promised that the decorations will be up in time for the ceremony," Wolkowicz added.

The tree lighting is a 30-year tradition that has never been cancelled, Wolkowicz said. Specific plans for carolers and music are still being determined and should be confirmed by the Thanksgiving holiday, Wolkowicz

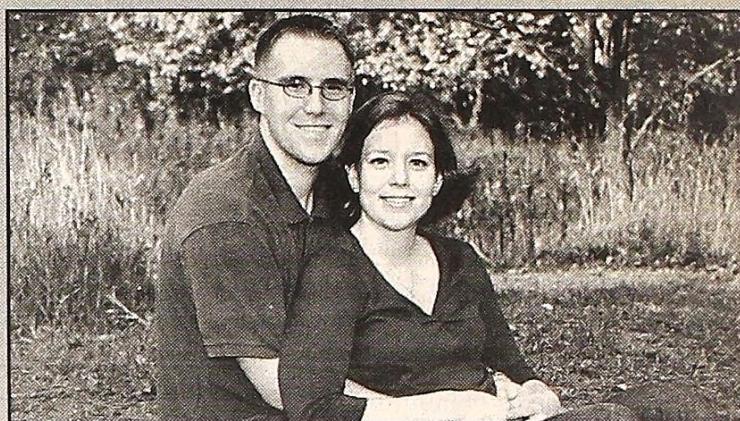
added. In the past, area church choirs have preformed for onlookers.

After the lighting of the tree, Santa will officially arrive to greet Inkster children. Each child will have an opportunity to tell Santa what they'd like to see in their stockings this Christmas. Hot chocolate, cookies and other refreshments will be provided. Santa will be available for photo opportunities for parents who want to bring a camera.

"We're in the process of sending flyers to schools to let people know (about the ceremony)," Wolkowicz said. "We hope parents and children will come out."

The City of Inkster Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 3 in front of city hall at 2121 Inkster Road.

## Soon to wed



Blauwkamp - Woody

Julie Francisca Blauwkamp and David Michael Woody will be married early next year.

The bride to be is the daughter of Leonard and Caroline Baluwkamp of Grand Rapids.

She is a graduate of Calvin College where she earned her bachelor's degree in social work.

She is employed as a social worker.

The future groom is the son of Dave Woody of Belleville and Jan Woody of Wayne.

He earned his bachelor of science degree in chemistry at Hope College and is employed as a chemist.

A Feb. 21, 2004 wedding date has been set.

## Memorial services set

Vermeulen Funeral homes in Plymouth and Westland and Crane Funeral Home in Romulus have scheduled memorial candle lighting services.

The public is invited to the memorial tributes to loved ones and there is no charge.

A special presentation, Handling the Holidays is planned which is designed to

help with grief during the holiday season.

In Plymouth, the ceremony is scheduled for 7 p.m. Dec. 10 and in Westland, the event will be at 6 p.m. Dec. 14. In Romulus, the event will be at 7 p.m. Monday.

Reservations are suggested and may be made at (734) 459-2250 for Plymouth or Westland and (734) 941-9200 for Romulus.

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# SPORTS

## Canton Chiefs roll over Rocks in district championship

Jeff Novak  
Staff Writer

The Canton Chiefs were crowned district champions and moved on to the regional playoffs with a 43-22 victory over neighboring rivals the Salem Rocks Friday night.

Junior center Katie Cezat recorded a double-double with 20 points and 13 rebounds to lead the Chiefs in the championship game. Rachele Guastella netted 10 and Becky Houdek added eight while Lisa Ealy nabbed eight rebounds.

It was a night of redemption for Cezat and the Chiefs as the Rocks shut them both down in the conference championship game on Nov. 13. Salem won that game 41-28.

"It was two different games with two different teams," said Canton Coach Bob Blohm. "In the conference game they played a zone defense and we had a difficult time getting the ball inside. This time we were a little more patient on offense and had good shots and made them."

The Chiefs knocked down 16 points, which included six from the line, in the first quarter and added another eight in the second. Canton held the Rocks to only seven points in the first half.

The second half was closer but the damage was done. Canton outscored Salem 18-16 to bring home the district

**Basketball is a game of shots  
— we made them this time and they didn't.**

**Coach Bob Blohm**

trophy with a 43-22 triumph.

The Chief's defense was outstanding as they held the hot hands of Salem's Alyssa Guerin and Ellen Canale to a combined 10 points as opposed to the 34 they scored in the conference championship.

"We knew that we couldn't let Guerin and Canale score," Blohm said. "Basketball is a game of shots — we made them this time and they didn't. Salem had good first shots but didn't get rebounds and take second shots. We were able to do that. It was just the opposite of the conference game."

Canton's road to regional play started with a bye in the first round of districts last Monday night, which led to a tough match up against the host South Lyon High School last Wednesday.

Canton pulled out a tight 46-43 win which pushed them into the district championship game.

Ealy and Cezat each scored 15 points against South Lyon and Guastella added eight.

The Chiefs trailed through most of the first half where they were down by five at the end of the first but rallied in the second to bring them within one at 20-19.

"The end of the second and the beginning of the third were really key for us," Blohm said. "It shows that the girls can be down in a big game and be able to come back."

Canton outscored South Lyon the rest of the way to win the game and head to the finals.

The Chiefs headed to Avondale High School in Auburn Hills on Monday night to face off against West Bloomfield in the first round of Region 6A competition. Due to holiday deadline schedules the scores were not available for this edition.

"We're happy to be playing right now," Blohm said. "It's a tough region and West Bloomfield is an outstanding team. But, we've been playing well on defense and rebounding well and we've had balanced scoring, it should be a good match up."

"We're just happy to be playing still," he added.

"We've accomplished two out of three of our goals — we won our division and districts — it was a good thing for these girls."

## Eagles stunned, lose to Cougars, 62-44

Jeff Novak  
Staff Writer

Things don't always turn out the way they should. And they didn't for the Romulus Eagles when they fell 62-44 to Garden City in the Class A district playoffs last Wednesday night.

The Eagles went 18-2 in the regular season and played their hearts out against Dearborn for the Mega White Division championship two weeks ago.

They played the Wayne Memorial Zebras last Monday in the first round of district competition and won 53-41, before moving onto round two against the Garden City Cougars.

The Cougars lost to Romulus twice during the season and fought hard to not make it a third time.

Romulus had a 10-6 lead in the first quarter but Garden city nailed a two-pointer at the buzzer to narrow the gap.

The Eagles had a hard time getting the ball through the hoop and they couldn't get the offensive rebounds that they are used to in the second quarter. They only recorded eight points while the Cougars nailed 19 to take a 27-18 lead at the half.

"We missed 36 two-point shots in the game, which is not normal for us — that's 72 points — if we make half of those it's not even a game," Romulus coach Rhonda McAllister said. "Some nights they just don't fall, for us, it just happened to be during districts."

"Everything that we wanted to do on defense went down the drain when they got in the lead," she added. "Going into the game we were focused on shutting down Garden City's

**I was happy with the fourth quarter effort.  
That's the trade mark of our team — we don't give up.**

**Rhonda McAllister**

center Lindsay Sletermier. Once they took the lead we had to move the defense out which isolated her — it's not what we wanted. After the first quarter we played with our backs to the wall."

Sletermier led the Cougars with 24 points.

Garden City outscored the Eagles again 15-11 in the third quarter and led 42-15 to start the fourth quarter.

Janiece Armstrong and Erika Mims led Romulus in the fourth quarter for a combined 13 points in the first two minutes of play. Armstrong nailed three three-pointers and Mims dropped four points to bring the Eagles within two points of the Cougars at 44-42.

"I was happy with the fourth quarter effort," McAllister said. "That's the trade mark of our team — we don't give up."

On the verge of another comeback run in the fourth quarter the Eagles stumbled over a hurdle as Garden City, led by Sletermier, scored 16 unanswered points to take a 60-42 lead with under three minutes left in the game.

Senior center Alicia Harbor sank two with under a minute left but Garden City put the



The Plymouth Whalers lost to the Erie Otters 6-5 in overtime after blowing a 4-1 first-quarter lead.

## Whalers flounder in overtime, lose 6-5

Jeff Novak  
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Whalers have suffered from slow starts all season but have managed to fight back and either win or tie most of those games. However, Saturday night was a different story as the Whalers blew a 4-1 first-period lead to lose to the Erie Otters 6-5 in overtime.

Jonas Fiedler started the Whalers out right with their first goal. Vaclav Meidl fired a shot, the Erie goaltender let the rebound go and Fiedler nailed it home at 12:30. Tim Sestito added a short-handed goal off of an assist from Mike Letizia to extend the Whalers' lead to 2-0. The Erie Otters countered with a power-play score from Michael

Blunden to make it a 2-1 game with 4:20 left to play in the first period.

John Vigilante added another one for Plymouth on a power play to go up 3-1. Ryan Ramsay and James Wisniewski recorded the assists. Wisniewski contributed another power-play goal with 15 seconds left in the period. Ramsay and John Mitchell were credited with the assists.

Plymouth hit for another power-play goal to start the second period. Gino Pissellini recorded the goal and Ramsay and Wisniewski made the assists to make it 5-1. However, Erie put up three goals in a three-and-a-half minute span to get back into the game. Sean O'Conner scored first followed by Ryan O'Marra and Alex Karaulchuk to bring the

Otters to within one with a 5-4 score at the end of the second period.

The Otter's Mike Melinko continued the scoring spree in the third period to tie the game 5-5 with less than five minutes left to play.

The Whalers were unable to get things going and the game was pushed into overtime.

Chris Campoli, on a power play, scored Erie's fifth straight goal to take home the 6-5 victory.

The Whalers will host the Windsor Spitfires tonight at the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth and hopefully be thankful for a win when they travel to the Sarnia Sting on turkey day. They will finish out the holiday weekend play Saturday night when they host

See **Eagles**, page 20

# Robichaud ousted by Renaissance

Jeff Novak  
Staff Writer

Amazingly enough, Mary Riley's 37 points didn't carry the Dearborn Heights Robichaud Bulldogs past Detroit Renaissance in a 76-55 District B girls' basketball playoff game last Wednesday night.

Scoring isn't anything new to Riley, who averaged 27.6 points per game for a total of 593 points in 21 games this season. The loss was unfortunately Riley's last game for the Bulldogs. She played varsity all four of her years at Robichaud and scored 1,506 points, according to Robichaud coach Warren Woods.

"She went out just the way she came in – doing whatever it takes to try and get us the win," he said. "They (Renaissance) couldn't do anything against her. They double and triple teamed her but she still scored."

Riley recently signed a national letter of intent to play basketball at Syracuse University where she received a four-year full scholarship.

In Wednesday's game Robichaud was outscored 18-8 in the first quarter by a bigger and more powerful Renaissance team. But, like every game, the Bulldogs fought to the end. In the second quarter they battled back to outscore Renaissance 22-17 and narrowed the gap to 35-30 at the halfway point.

*She went out just the way  
she came in...*

**Coach Warren Woods**

"They had a size advantage. They were a big team," Woods said. "But we played hard all the way through to make up for the lack of size."

Renaissance used their size and capitalized on turnovers in the first three minutes of the third quarter and pulled away with a 60-46 lead, he said. The 14-point lead was too much to overcome in the fourth quarter where the Bulldogs were outscored 16-9 to end the game 76-55.

"They just had too many weapons," Woods said. "They had a lot of depth – the girls that came off the bench were just as good as the starters were."

"I couldn't be more proud of my girls, though," he added. "They played hard – I didn't expect anything less than 150 percent, because they give that all of the time. That's all a coach can ask for."

Senior Shakira Patillo added eight points for Robichaud. The Bulldogs will lose seniors Riley, Patillo, Shanika Bodden and Whitney Renfroe to graduation this year.

"All of the girls here played their role on this team," Woods said. "They all made sacrifices for the team. It's impossible to replace someone like Mary (Riley). Everything that we do next year will have to be by committee. I just hope some of the younger players learned from her – her work ethic and the type of person that she is."

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## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, December 9, 2003 at 7:00 p.m., in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan 48111.

The Public Hearing relates to Parcel Number V125-83-077-99-0002-716; also known as 47548 Denton Rd. This property is located on the north side of Denton Road; between Beck Road and Beckley Road.

The subject site is located within the Charter Township of Van Buren R-1B (Single Family Residential) Zoning District. The applicant is requesting an 8' variance from the required 35' rear yard setback to construct an attached sunroom on the rear of home.

The applicant is requesting the following:

### ARTICLE XVII SECTION 17.02 SCHEDULE OF REGULATIONS, REAR YARD SETBACK, R1-B Single Family Residential

35-foot rear yard setback required  
27-foot rear yard setback proposed  
8-foot variance requested

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the date of the above reference Public Hearing.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

Publish: November 26, 2003

## CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 18, 2003

Supervisor King called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Board Room. Present: Supervisor King, Clerk Payne, Treasurer Budd, Trustee Hart, Trustee Herman and Trustee Jahr. Absent and excused: Trustee Rochowiak. Others in attendance: Planning and Economic Development Director Kelley, Recreation and Facilities Director Ross, Interim Public Safety Director Smolen, Secretary Cline and an audience of six (6).

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Payne moved, Jahr seconded to approve the agenda as presented. Carried.

**PUBLIC HEARING:** None.

**MINUTES:** Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the Work Study Session Minutes of November 3, 2003, as presented. Carried.

Hart moved, Herman seconded to approve the Regular Board Meeting Minutes November 4, 2003, as presented. Carried.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Pastor Jim Richter of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church and Open Arms Family Resource Center presented the Van Buren Township Fire Department with a donation in the amount of \$1,300 to be used for community service needs.

Supervisor King read a press release regarding the Open Arms Family Resource Center and Bethlehem Lutheran Church Pancake breakfast fundraiser that raised the previously mentioned donation to the Van Buren Township Fire Department and an equally matching donation of a Tele-Lite Generator Light to the City of Belleville Fire Department.

Supervisor King read a press release regarding State Share Revenue cuts and how it affects the Township.

Supervisor King stated the Township recently hired an outside consultant of Kelly and Stone to evaluate the Public Safety Department and on November 24th, 25th, and 26th one of the consultants will be available to meet with township residents as part of evaluation process. To set up a meeting with Bill Kelly contact the Supervisors office at 699.8910.

A press release from the Van Buren Township Police Department regarding a recent home invasion and robbery, which states the three suspects, were apprehended through the efforts of the Canton Township, Westland and Van Buren Township police departments.

A thank you to Police Officer Bazzi from a resident for the assistance related to a flat tire.

A letter from a local resident thanking the Public Safety Department for conducting property checks while they were away.

Yard waste pick-up in Van Buren Township will end the last week of November.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:** None.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Jahr moved, Herman seconded to adopt the 2004 Holiday Calendar as presented. Carried.

Budd moved, Herman seconded to adopt the 2004 Work Study Session and Regular Board Meeting Calendar as presented. Carried.

Budd moved, Hart seconded to approve the Michigan Association of Fire Fighters (MAFF) Collective Bargaining Agreement dated July 1, 2003 through June 30, 2007 as ratified by the Fire Department membership on Monday, October 27, 2003 and noting this includes resolution of grievance number 02-005. Carried.

**VOUCHER LIST:** Budd moved, Payne seconded to approve the November 18, 2003 voucher list as presented. Carried.

**REPORTS:** None.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:** Township Administrative Offices will be closed on Thursday, November 27th and Friday, November 28th for the Thanksgiving holiday.

On November 20th, 21st, and 22nd Belleville High School Productions will present the comedy "Loving Lives!" at the Belleville High School Auditorium. Tickets may be purchased at the door or box office for further information contact Belleville High School at 734.697.9133.

The Parks and Recreation Department announced the following: 'Holidays Around the World' on Wednesday, November 19th from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The '2003 Holiday Arts & Craft Show' on Saturday, December 6th from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. For more information contact the Recreation Department at 699.8921.

The Belleville Area Chamber of Commerce annual Holiday Parade will be held on Saturday, December 6th at 11:00 a.m.

Interim Public Safety Director Smolen announced the automatic external defibrillators (AED) have been placed in Police Vehicles.

On Thursday, December 4th the Southwestern Wayne Democratic Club will host a Holiday Dinner Dance for further information contact Sharon Curson at 697.8157.

**AUDIENCE (Non-Agenda Items):** None.

**CLOSED SESSION:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Payne moved, Hart seconded to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. Carried.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC  
Township Clerk

Cindy C. King  
Township Supervisor

Publish: November 26, 2003



# Eagles

FROM PAGE 17

game away at 62-44.

Mims led the valiant effort with 16 points, which included going 8-8 from the line. Armstrong put in 15 points that included the three three-pointers in the rally at the start of the fourth quarter.

Mims, Armstrong and Ashley Sibby received the honors of being chosen for the All Conference team. Armstrong was also cho-

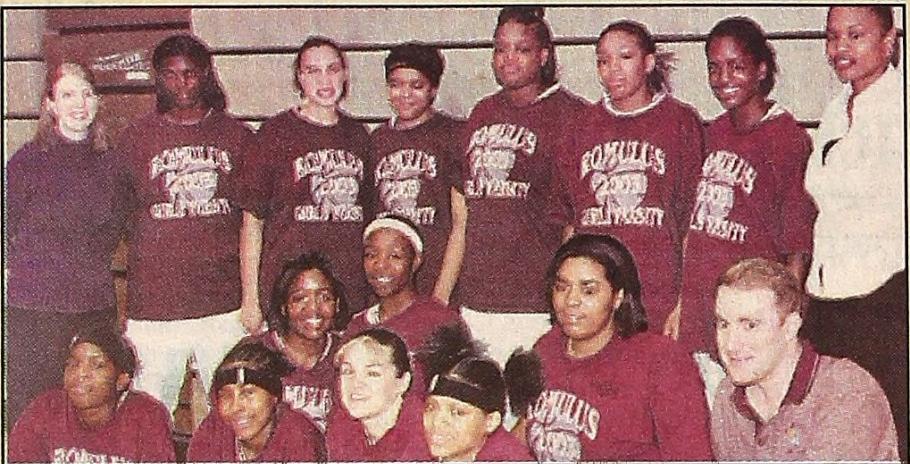
sen for the All Area West first team while Mims made the All Area West second team.

The Eagles will start their evaluations and off-season conditioning and strength training in the upcoming weeks, according to McAllister.

"Planning for next year starts today," she said.

"But, next year we plan on playing for districts."

This year we played for the league and districts. I think this last week really took a lot out of us."



The Mega Division White champions, the Romulus Eagles, suffered a difficult loss to Garden City in district play. Team members are (first row from left): Landria Buckley, Kenise Thompson, Jasmine Charles, Erika Wasson, Kate Appel, Janiece Armstrong, Crystal Scott and Assistant coach Kevin McAllister, (back row): Coach Rhonda McAllister, Diamond Hamilton, Constance Kersey, Erika Mims, Alicia Harbor, Ashley Sibby, Deborah Anderson and assistant coach Candace Finley.

## Varsity Football All-Conference team members named

**Jeff Novak**  
Staff Writer

The votes were cast, the totals tallied and the results for the Western Lakes Athletic Association Coaches' selections for the 2003 season All Conference and Division teams are in along with honorable mentions.

### All Conference Selections

The Canton Chiefs went undefeated to wrap up the Conference Championship and had four players selected to the All Conference team: OL Jeff Sartor, WR Devin Thomas, RB Travis McKinney and DL Franz Gatzke.

The John Glenn Rockets landed in second place in the conference and added five players to the

team: OL Josiah Swartz, OL Alex Jachym, RB Matt Smitherman, DL Brandon Westbrook and LB Eric Schambers.

First-year head coach Craig Hnatuk turned the Wayne Zebras from bottom feeders last year to playoff contenders this year and had three players selected to the All Conference team: RB Tyrone Dillard, DE/OLB Randell Black and DB J.R. Fells.

The Salem Rocks' offense sputtered at times during the season but when it was on it dominated and part of the reason was the performance of star senior WR Brian Bradley who also received All Conference honors.

### Western All Division Selections

Canton: C Lester Booker, OL Ray Eisbrenner, TE Jake Powers,

RB Chuck Schumacher, DL Chris Snider, DE/OLB Matt Payne, LB Jeff Hudson and DB Steve Campbell.

Northville: OL Taylor Lebeis, WR Mike Jameson, QB Mark Sorenson, RB Mac Stilec, DL Ken Schleh and DB Chris Oakland.

### Lakes All Division Selections

John Glenn: OL Bob Varley, WR Nathan Beard, DL Terry Pittman, DE/OLB Sam Williams, LB Jake Fairchild and DB Brian Peterson.

Wayne: OL Ryan Flatt, QB Brad Wilson, DL Justin Bowie and LB Chris Wells.

Salem: OL Dan Skotak, TE Alex Enright, QB Chris Drabicki and RB Mike Kerul.

### Honorable Mention Selections

Canton: Russ Bruner, P.J.

Caram, Tim Kohalisky, Shawn Little, Brandon Reeves, Bryon Sieferd, Bryan Wagner, Julian Smith, Andy Rossow and Eric O'Shaughnessy.

John Glenn: John Adams, Rece Cox, Vinnie DeLuca and Joe Smitherman.

Wayne: Brian Hearst, Jeremy Jamnick, Jason Hesch, Alex Lickliter, John Lloyd, Dale Potter and Justin Venegoni.

Northville: Bill Brown, Brendon Buckley, Tim Downing, J.D. Gerblieck, Steve Minier, Bill Riegner, Matt Tanski and Ryan Xuereb.

Salem: Jeff Lake, Dave Scherbatty, Kevin Bradley, Steven Lehane, Nate Vanbynen, Matt Kappler, Brandon Kilgore and William Schultz.

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